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BULLETIN

Mahoning County Medical Society

Volume 61 June 1991 No. 5

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SOCIETY MEETINGS

January 15, 1991

March 16, 1991

May 21, 1991

September 24, 1991

November 19, 1991

December 17, 1991

The Bulletin is published nine times a year, monthly with the exception of May, July and August by the Mahoning County Medical Society, 5104 Market Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44512.

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Of Medicine and Business

Being a solo primary practitioner here in the Mahoning Valley, I have watched my real income steadily drop over the twelve years that I have practiced. But why should this happen? I see more and more patients and the scope of tests that I perform in the office is increasing!

In consultation with other practitioners in the area, the following problems were agreed upon. Any business, including the business of medicine, makes a profit by bringing in more money than it spends. Traditionally, these costs had been low. Without extensive equipment, offices were smaller; labor was much cheaper; and simple billing systems were needed for the 10 percent of income generated through insurance. Paperwork was nearly non-existent with notes rudimentary enough to remind only the physician of his own thoughts. Malpractice and other liability insurances were low cost. A simpler society meant less dependence on lawyers, accountants, financial advisors, practice management advisors, billing advisors, computer experts, telephone and communication experts, office technological personnel, contracts, managed health care organizations, multitudes of changing insurance rules, CME courses, and governmental regulations. Because of patient demand, more equipment must be bought, used, maintained and insured. Additional space and electricity must be provided. Everyone's rules and regulations must be satisfied. Even medical societies run into increasing costs in order to provide the necessary services to its members despite the voluntary services contributed by its member physicians.

In addition to mounting costs, income is actually decreasing. Where twelve years ago, nearly 100 percent of bills were paid, now most practitioners feel that their return now is down to about 60 percent overall with even worse statistics by surgical and some medical consultants. Declining income could be made up by seeing more

patients or increasing the amount of work done on patients, for example, lab work. However, most practices here in the valley have maximized self-paying patients, and increased competition limits attracting additional new patients. Traditional lines of specialization are all but lost as additional training allows crossovers. Admissions to hospitals are more limited, and payment for work done has diminished.

So, what can we do to practice in the '90s? Trying to increase reimbursement is very limited and is expected to be more limited in the future. Therefore, time spent with the patients will have to be consolidated to the problems at hand. Conversations about the patients' personal stresses, minor extraneous physical complaints, and elaborate descriptions of ailments will have to be limited as "factory" medicine takes over. Diet, diabetes, wound care problems and other ailments take too much time and can be dealt with by nurses, or even a 900 telephone number, charging the bill through the phone company for as long as the patient cares to talk. Equipment and supply costs can be reduced by buying cartels sponsored by the societies, groups of physicians, or national wholesale club memberships. Equipment costs less if shared by many physicians. At first, loosely formed groups of solo practitioners can be formed to buy and use some equipment, but ultimately practitioners in the valley will have to forego solo practice and form groups in office or clinic settings with high volume efficient settings, professionally managed, and flexible enough to adjust to the ever changing medical climate.

Medicine has always been thought of as a profession but is quickly being turned into a business. Like all business climates, it is ever changing and always must respond to consumer needs, demands, and available capital. We have to change to survive. If anyone knows the true answer to this dilemma, please let us all know. Otherwise, tune up to be a medical business person.

"Where twelve years ago, nearly 100 percent of bills were paid, now most practitioners feel that their return is down to about 60 percent."



Brian S. Gordon, M.D.

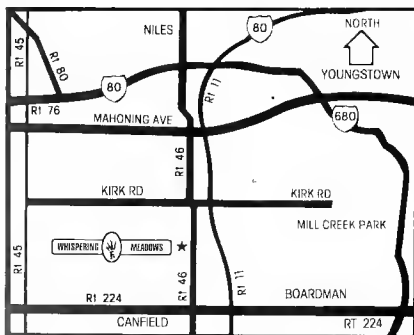
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Snow Job

In the beginning was the patient presenting to an emergency room with pain. The problem was diagnosed simply as exacerbation of a continuing problem. Such was the evening of the "first day." "To reduce the auditory input" (the patient's complaint), intramuscular demerol and vistaril were prescribed, twice. The patient's cognitive level was thus so suppressed that she could no longer conduct an intelligent conversation. Such was the evening of the "second day." A chest X-ray was obtained in the emergency department to evaluate the associated fever. Such was the evening of the "third day." Perhaps related to the "snowed" condition of the patient, a urinary catheter was placed. Such was the evening of the "fourth day." The primary physician learned that only an AP portable film was done (perhaps related to the "snowed" condition of the patient) and obtained the appropriate films. Such was the evening of the "fifth day." The absence of an indication for use of the foley catheter was recognized, and it was removed. The patient's primary physician recognized the nature of the underlying problem and instituted appropriate therapy. Such was the evening of the "sixth day." On the seventh day, the primary physician rested, and the patient prospered.

This scenerio neither elevates the position of the physician, nor claims that the patient prospered because the primary physician rested. It emphasizes that once appropriate action has been instituted, observation may be the proper course. What then constitutes appropriate action? What is the role of the demerol/vistaril "cocktail"? What is the role of the urinary catheter?

What is the role of the portable chest X-ray? Peter Levine's query as to the ten indications for whole blood transfusion perhaps also addresses indications for portable chest X-rays. After raising the question, Dr. Levine would draw an "X" through it. There are essentially no indications for whole blood transfusion, and perhaps as few for portable chest X-rays. The portable

chest X-ray presents only a limited perspective, hiding approximately two-thirds of the view available on a routine AP and lateral films. Perhaps it should be shown the "way of the dinosaur."

What is the role of the urinary catheter? It certainly is convenient for the staff caring for a patient, or is it? While keeping the bed clean, it predisposes to urinary tract infection and debilitation. As such processes are much more time consuming for the staff (and especially for the patient), and as female urinals are available, perhaps its time also has come. Female urinals and perhaps even external female catheters should become as familiar as that famous state, Texas.

What is the role of the demerol/vistaril "cocktail"? Pain management is a controversial field. My personal approach is to identify and treat the cause. While usually successful in pain management, when I can identify the cause, the situation reverses if the cause proves elusive. If I cannot identify the cause, I find that I am not particularly effective in pain management. The caricature of the physician cutting the patient's hair arises. The nurse raises the question: "Doctor, don't you think we should draw the limits to our expertise somewhere?" The role of the "cocktail" in managing such pain is beyond my expertise. Its role in managing surgical pain is similarly beyond my expertise. However, its role in management of arthritis is clear cut: None. Narcotics have no role in the management of arthritis. Confusion, falls, constipation, and acceleration of the rate of joint destruction are only some of the disadvantages of such agents. I know of no advantage.

Perhaps the time of the "snow job" has passed. Snowing patients with demerol/vistaril for arthritis pain or "being snowed" (by health care providers requesting urinary catheters for their convenience) are perhaps no longer "socially acceptable" behaviors. It is a pleasure to "rest on the seventh day" and watch the departure of these behaviors from our valley.

"On the seventh day, the primary physician rested, and the patient prospered."



Bruce M. Rothschild, M.D.

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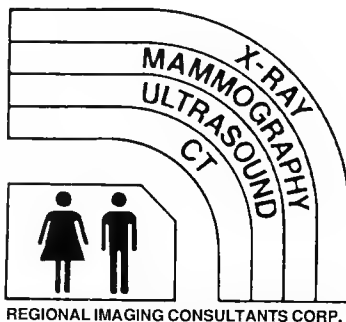
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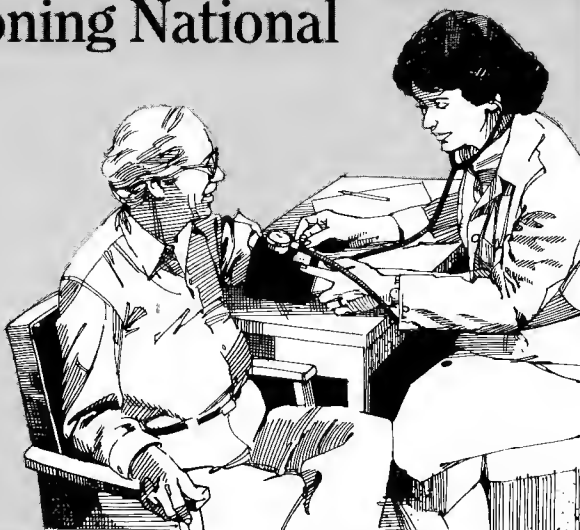
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Access To Care - A Supply and Demand Enigma?

"It is crucial that proposals for health care reform include incentives to encourage talented young people to enter medicine."

Recently a number of health care reform plans have been handed down regarding meeting the demands for access to care. The question is not "Who will pay for universal care?" Because we all know the answer is the taxpayer. The more significant question is "Who will deliver universal care?" Any health care reform plan that would provide access for at least 30 million people must take into account that there is a maldistribution and likely a shortage of physicians in the United States. The Council of Graduate Medical Education's landmark study indicating a massive physician surplus has been refuted to a large degree by studies at Tufts University and others. The Health Resources and Services Administration continues to project a physician surplus in its reports to the President and Congress, but those projections are hedged significantly in numerous qualifications.

If we look at the recent call-up of physicians and other health care providers during the Persian Gulf War, dramatic shortages were noticed here at home. The health community faced the real prospect of an inability to serve both military and civilian populations. If the prospect of dealing with several thousand casualties was daunting, imagine the strain that servicing 20 or 30 million needy people would impose upon the system.

There are currently 1500 U.S. Counties designated as Health Care Manpower Shortage Areas. Trade publications report that 85 percent of all U.S. hospitals and 60 percent of all clinics are recruiting physicians. These facilities are obviously by no means in rural or underserved areas. Doctor's incomes rose 48 percent between 1982 and 1988 - twice the rate of inflation. Many factors contributed to the increase, but no such climb would be possible without a strong demand for services.

The American College of Family Physicians estimates the United States needs

35,000 more family doctors, with the shortfall expected to increase. Only 75 percent of all available family practice residency positions were filled by American graduates in 1991. The need may be even more acute in obstetrics. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists reports that 12 percent of OB/GYNs have dropped obstetrics from their practice, largely because of the malpractice climate.

The American Medical Association recently conducted a study of young physicians to glean their perceptions of the medical profession. Forty percent of young physicians surveyed said that if they were in college today, they would not select a career in medicine or were unsure they would do so. Young physicians begin practice with an average debt of \$30,000-\$40,000. It should be noted that the ratio of medical applications to acceptances dropped to 1.6 in 1989 - its lowest point in 30 years; however, the ratio has increased in 1990 and 1991.

It is crucial that proposals for health care reform include incentives to encourage talented young people to enter medicine. Men and women choose the profession for a number of reasons - mostly because they are attracted to the doctor/patient relationship. They want the autonomy and authority to make important decisions, to change life in a profound, positive way, and to feel good about what they do. If the control the physicians have over their practice continues to decrease through bureaucracy, convoluted payment plans, malpractice, debt, assigned care, or other variables, the number of physicians will continue to decrease. If the number is decreased enough, no matter how well conceived, the health care system will not work.

Those of us who are actively involved in medical education and are dedicated to

Continued on pg. 23



Gene A. Butcher, MD

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Retired Physicians Meet

Some retired members of the Mahoning County Medical Society are getting together for Dutch treat luncheons. Two groups are meeting informally each month. One group of doctors gathers in Liberty on the first Monday of each month, and a second group meets in Boardman on

the third Thursday of each month when possible. Any retired or soon-to-be retired physicians who practiced in Mahoning and/or Trumbull Counties are welcome to share in the lunchtime conversation and camaraderie. For more information, call the Society office at 788-4700. □

Volunteers — Come to the Fair!

The Society again needs volunteers to staff its booth at the Canfield Fair. The fair runs from Friday, August 30, through Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 1991. The theme for our booth this year will be "Ask Your Doctor." Members willing to donate volunteer hours can call the office at 788-4700. □

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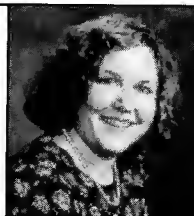
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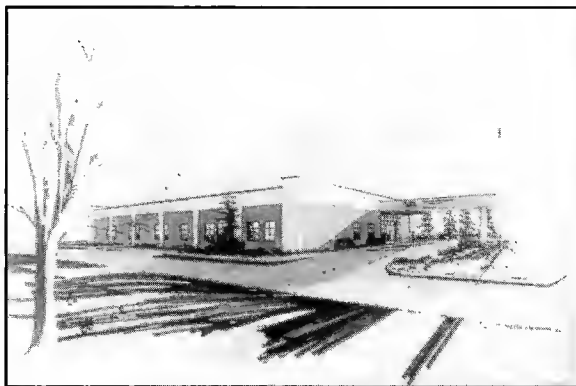
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Youngstown VA Outpatient Clinic

A new outpatient clinic for veterans, the culmination of a grass roots effort begun several years ago by a number of local veterans and community groups in the Mahoning Valley, will open in Youngstown later this summer.

The effort was led by Carl A. Nunziato, chairman of the VA Clinic Task Force. Mr. Nunziato, a service-connected veteran of the Vietnam war, is also chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the Youngstown Area Chamber of Commerce and executive vice-president for Ohio Bancorp. The VA Clinic Task Force studied veteran needs in the Mahoning Valley and found that many veterans were not receiving health care because of economic or social problems. In addition, the distance to Cleveland, Butler and Pittsburgh VA Medical Centers prevented some veterans from receiving health care. As a result of these studies, the Cleveland VA initiated the plans for a satellite in Youngstown. The clinic, located at 2031 Belmont Avenue, will be the fourth unit of the Cleveland VA Medical Center, under the direction of Carl J. Gerber, M.D. It will occupy 5,000 sq. ft. of renovated space which has been so designed that expansion can be easily accomplished.

Barbara Fleming, M.D., associate chief of staff for Ambulatory Care, Cleveland VA Medical Center, is acting as chief medical officer of the clinic until a physician is recruited for the position. The clinic will provide primary care in medicine and mental health. Recruitment of physicians and other staff is proceeding well, and it is expected that many of the positions will be filled from the Youngstown-Mahoning Valley area. Eighteen physicians, social workers, psychologists and allied health personnel will staff the clinic in the first year of operation. It is expected that there will be 12,000 visits in the first year with



Architectural Rendition of Final Building

growth to about 42,000 visits in the fourth year after the clinic's opening. As the workload increases, additional professional and support positions will be added as needed. Expanded hours of operation are also planned with evening hours in both medicine and mental health.

Patients requiring more complex services or hospitalization will receive them at the Wade Park or Brecksville Units of the Cleveland VA Medical Center. The Wade Park Unit offers all medical/surgical diagnostic and therapeutic modalities for patients, including computerized tomography, laser surgery and a new state-of-the-art surgical suite and intensive care unit. It is located in the University Circle area of Cleveland and is closely affiliated with the Case Western Reserve University Medical School. The Brecksville Unit provides diverse services, including a 195 bed nursing home; a 155 bed domiciliary which specializes in patients requiring social and psychological rehabilitation, acute and chronic psychiatry in-patient wards, and in-patient and out-patient services for patients with problems of substance abuse.

Patients seen in the new clinic who have emergent needs will be initially admitted to local hospitals for stabilization, prior to transport to Cleveland. Life-Flight is expected to be utilized, as well as local ambulance services..



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Westbury, NY
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REDCY: Temple Univ. Hospital, Philadelphia, PA
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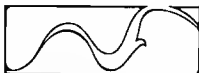
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Medical Assistants Host OSMA Convention

The Mahoning County Chapter of Medical Assistants hosted their state organization's 34th Annual Meeting in April.

The annual meeting opened on Thursday evening, April 25, 1991, with a meeting of the Board of Trustees. Gerald Stark, M.D., Lucas County, was elected to a three-year term on the Physicians Advisory Board. Following the Board meeting, the Mahoning County Chapter of Medical Assistance hosted a hospitality party.

The House of Delegates met on Friday. A new chapter — South Eastern (District #8) was seated for the first time. Special guest in attendance was Ohio State Medical Association Executive Director Herbert Gillen. Eleanor Pershing, executive director of the Mahoning County Medical

Society, and Bill Fry, OSMA ombudsman, addressed the delegates.

June Kyle of the Mahoning Chapter was elected to a two-year term as District #6 Representative. Stephanie Pizzuto, the immediate past president of the Mahoning County Chapter was elected to the nominating committee.

The state organization recognizes the Mahoning County chapter for presenting on excellence 34th Annual Meeting under the direction of Betty Ann Perschka, CMA, and Kathylynn Feld, CMA.

The local chapter won second place in the Publications competition for 1990-1991. The Mahoning Chapter will be working toward a successful 1991-1992 year under the leadership of President Nina Laberba.



Mahoning County Medical Assistants.



Attendees visiting exhibits.



Credentials Committee.



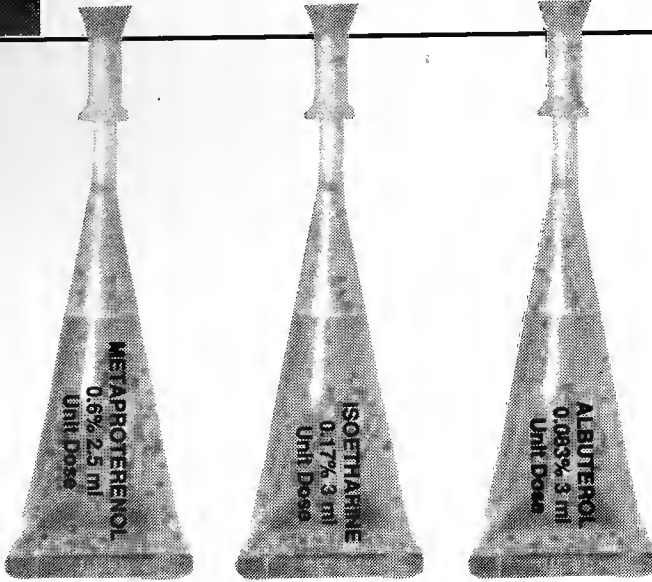
Betty Ann Perschka, Co-Chairman; Gerald E. Rushton, Master of Ceremonies; Kathylynn Feld, CMA Co-Chairman.



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New Medical Assistant Seminars

Seminars for NEW Medical Assistants in Ohio will be held in Columbus, Ohio on the following dates:

- Thursday, August 15, 1991
- Wednesday, September 11, 1991
- Monday, October 21, 1991

Topics which will be covered include a discussion of the difference between Medicare Part A and B, medical necessity, the basis of Medicare reimbursement, claims filing, Medicare Secondary Payer and other related subjects. The hours of each seminar will be 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will be held at Nationwide Insurance Company.

The material which will be discussed is directed only to those persons who are new to billing for physician services, and have

been on the job for less than 2 years.

Reservations are necessary. A nonrefundable registration fee of \$5.00 per person is required. (The number of persons attending from each office should be limited to two.) A check payable to Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company should be included with your reservation.

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Columbus, Ohio 43218
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Anabolic Steroids

A new state law prohibiting the sale, prescription or dispensing of anabolic steroids for other than medical purposes took effect on May 21, 1991. The

legislation, House Bill 62, was supported by the OSMA. A copy of the law may be obtained by calling the OSMA Department of Legislation (800) 766-OSMA.

AIDS Guidelines

The OSMA is providing members with a free copy of the new Ohio Department of Health clinical guidelines for

AIDS. To order a set of these guidelines, contact the OSMA Department of Communications at (800) 766-OSMA.

MCMS Membership Update

ACTIVE	390
NON-RESIDENT	14
EMERITUS	88
RESIDENT	97
TOTAL	589

Society Meeting

The May dinner meeting was held on Tuesday, May 21, 1991, at the Youngstown Club with 85 members and guests in attendance. Dr. Brian Gordon, president, presided over the business meeting and welcomed new members: Drs. Robert Kester and Madeleine Ortez.

A report was given on the recently held OSMA Annual Meeting and the application of Robert Gutierrez, MD, for resident membership, was presented. Approval was given

for the date change of the September 1991 meeting from September 17 to September 24.

Dr. Richard Gentile, program chairman, introduced the speakers: Richard Desman who spoke on "Fundamentals of Estate Planning and Tax Savings Ideas"; and Dr. Carl Gerber and Dr. Barbara Fleming, from the Cleveland VA Clinic, who gave an update on the Youngstown VA Outpatient Clinic.

Associate Dean, continued from pg. 12

continuing to improve the profession have recognized the difficulty in the recruitment of students for medical school and also for our residency programs, particularly in primary care. It will be interesting to see what the next 10 years holds regarding health care reform. Certainly, the system will not continue to remain in the form as we see it currently.

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Society Recognizes Area Scholars

The Mahoning County Medical Society continued a tradition of recognizing academic excellence in local high schools by hosting its 25th Annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner at the Wick Pollock Inn on April 22, 1991.

This year, 70 student scholars from 24 area high schools were honored. Dr. Brian Gordon, president of the Mahoning County Medical Society, and Dr. Richard Gentile, program chairman, presented each student with a certificate and a pin.

Paul Easton, formerly manager of human resources for General Motors, and currently executive director of Hospice, gave an inspiring motivational speech.

Hosts for the evening were Dr. and Mrs. James Anderson; Dr. Denise Bobovnyik and James Watt; Dr. and Mrs. Antonio Gestosani; Dr. Alice Pomidor and Dr. William Pomidor; Dr. and Mrs. Costas Sarantopoulos; Dr. Robert Spratt; and Dr. and Mrs. Hai-Shiuh Wang.



Dr. Hai Shiuh Wang, Dr. Brian Gordon, Catherine Wang, Ryan Williams, Dr. Richard Gentile, Florence Wang.



Paul Easton addresses honorees and Society members.

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JENNIFER MICHELE LEE
SCOTT JOSEPH NESTICH
CARRIE ELLEN O'BRIEN
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WEST BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL

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NEOUCOM Board Recognizes Emily Mackall

At a recent meeting of the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM) Board of Trustees, Emily P. Mackall was recognized for her years of dedication and service to the College of Medicine.

Mrs. Mackall was appointed to a nine-year term on the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees in 1982. She was subsequently appointed to the NEOUCOM Board of Trustees as the Youngstown State University board representative. She has served the NEOUCOM Board of Trustees as chair of the Academic Policy Committee and the Business and Finance Committee.

During her years of service, Mrs. Mackall has not missed a board or a committee meeting at Youngstown State University or NEOUCOM.

The NEOUCOM Board of Trustees recognized Mrs. Mackall for her business skills, strong knowledge of higher education and keen judgment which have served the students, faculty and staff of the College.

"The College of Medicine is really a superior school in all respects," Mrs. Mackall said. "The atmosphere on campus is remarkable. You can feel the cooperation and good will among the faculty, staff and students." She credited the leadership at the College, specifically Colin Campbell, M.D., president and dean, for that cooperation.

The success of the school is evident, she said, by the level of success of its graduates. More than 800 NEOUCOM graduates are practicing medicine in family practice and various medical specialties in Ohio and throughout the country.

Mrs. Mackall was also thanked for her significant contributions to the economic development of Columbiana County and the Mahoning Valley through dedicated public service.

Mrs. Mackall served the students of Youngstown State University as professor and Chairman of the Department of Economics over a period of 26 years. She was the third woman to serve as a trustee of YSU and the first Columbiana County resident to serve in that capacity.

Mrs. Mackall attained full professorial rank in 1974 after 18 years on the YSU faculty. Prior to joining the YSU staff, she taught at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa. She graduated from Westminster College and earned her master's degree in business administration from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She also has done additional doctoral work at the University of Pittsburgh. She is a member of numerous professional and academic associations.

Mrs. Mackall said she will miss her involvement with the NEOUCOM Board of Trustees, adding, "I will help in any way I can to see that the College of Medicine continues to succeed." □

The following applications for membership were approved by Council:

Active:

Rashad El Dabh, MD
Mark Warren Reininga, MD

First Year:

James P. D'Apolito, MD
Michael B. Evan, MD
Robert R. Kester, MD

Second Year:

Madeleine Ana Ortiz, MD

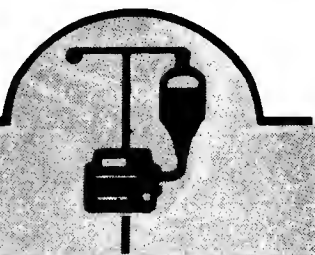
Information pertinent to the applicants should be sent to the Board of Censors by July 8, 1991.



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Coordinator, Fellowship
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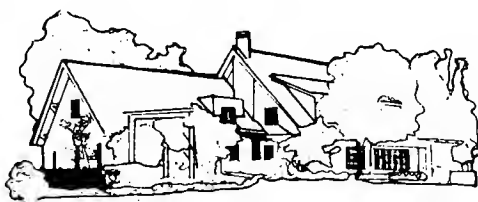
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New Auxiliary President Presides at Summer Board Meeting

The Mahoning County Medical Society Auxiliary held its annual summer board meeting in the home of Mrs. Rosemary Memo of Poland on June 11. Newly elected President Mrs. Pauline Sarantopoulos presided over the meeting.

Mrs. Sarantopoulos resides in Boardman with her husband Dr. Costa Sarantopoulos, an orthopedic surgeon. The couple have four children. A native of western Colorado, Mrs. Sarantopoulos earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in psychological counseling and guidance from the University of Northern Colorado. She has taught school on the elementary, middle school and high school levels. She has also taught in junior colleges. She was employed by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese as the national director of religious education for North and South America and has had responsibility for over 500 Greek Orthodox parishes. She has worked as a guidance counselor for the school systems, and at this time, she is involved with a support group for widows at St. Johns Greek Orthodox Church. Mrs. Sarantopoulos has a special interest in the hearing impaired and the prevention of teen suicide.

As president, Mrs. Sarantopoulos would like the organization to reach out to the community. She wants to make the public aware of what the Medical Auxiliary does to benefit education in the schools, and the adult community. She also hopes to increase awareness of the Auxiliary's fund raising efforts on behalf of local charitable organizations. Her objective for the year of her presidency is not only to remind the public of the special relationship between physicians and their patients, but also to let the public know that physicians' wives are working hard to not only support the Medical Society but to educate and assist the community with health issues facing families today.

The first event of Mrs. Sarantopoulos' presidency will be a family picnic on August

18 at Yellow Duck Park in Canfield. The annual New Members Luncheon will be held in September, followed by the annual fashion show in October. In November, a "Festival of Tables" will occur, and an all day health seminar for the community will be held with local speakers addressing many different areas of medicine and other issues of daily living. A Guest Day Lunch will be held in February; an International Dinner is planned for March; and a tea to honor past presidents of the Auxiliary is scheduled for April.

During the installation luncheon held at Tippecanoe Country Club in May, the following officers accepted their duties: Rosemary Memo, president-elect; Donna Hayat, vice-president; Linda Evan, treasurer; Jocelyn Buxman, recording secretary; and Marsha Turocy, corresponding secretary.

Chairpersons of standing committees are as follows: AMA-ERF, Debbie Alberran and Donna Hayat; Bylaws, Fran Barton; Newsletter, Donna Hayat; Courtesy, Mary Ann Novak, Norene Kennyhercz and Jerri Aiellio; Parliamentarian, Dolly Handel; Health Projects, Marilyn Chiu; Legislation, Barb Rosman; Long Range Planning, Mara Amedia; Membership, Joyce Bernstine; Nominating, Beth Bacani; Publicity and Editor to Mahoning County Medical Society Bulletin, Mary Walton; Program and Social, Executive Committee, Telephone, Charlotte Tandanick; and the Yearbook, Nancy Leonelli and Carol Kalavsky. The fashion show chairpersons are Norma Garritano and Mara Amedia.

The Auxiliary is looking forward to a full year of service and good fellowship.



Mrs. Pauline Sarantopoulos

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60 Years Ago — June 1931

The sixth issue of the Bulletin featured a new cover design, which was the gift of Dr. Armin Elsaesser. It was an engraving which featured a working steel mill in the background, a steam locomotive pulling a shipment from the mill, and in the foreground, a canal with two tugboats tied up to a dock. Presumably that was meant to depict the Lakes to River Canal which never became a reality. New members that month were Dr. John McCann and Dr. Tom Lander.

50 Years Ago — June 1941

David Belinkey, H.S. Banniga, Sam Schwebel, W.H. Bunn, J.N. McCann and Morris Rosenblum were away for post-graduated study. Donald Rothrock, R.M. Morrison, Wendell Benett and Walter Tims were away vacationing. Fred Coombs and Alice Mae Walker were on their honeymoon.

40 Years Ago — June 1951

The May dinner-dance was reported to be a huge success. This was due to the work of J.J. Wasilko, Ray Hall, R. Clifford, M. Conti, W. Flynn, J.P. Harvey, W.L. Mermis, M. Raupple, and J.J. Stechschulte. Two hundred and thirty members and guests attended the affair. New members that month were H.B. Munson and F.M. Lamprich.

30 Years Ago — June 1961

The main topic of conversation was the Kennedy Social Security Health Plan (which later became known simply as "Medicare"). The president of the AMA, E. Vincent Askey, refused to debate Secretary of HEW, Abraham Ribicoff. Ribicoff refused to debate Dr. Edward Annis. Marjorie Shearon, a friend of organized medicine, blamed the whole thing on Wilbur J. Cohen, assistant secretary of HEW. Mr. Cohen said it was all

just "an insurance program."

Dr. Richard Murray had a very impressive indoor-outdoor reception and dedication of his new "Medart" building, on Glenwood Avenue. The affair was complete with prominent citizens, dedication speech, buffet dinner. The occasion was crowned by a rousing rendition of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture with rockets, aerial bombs and bells, performed by the Youngstown Philharmonic Orchestra. New members were James S. Bates and Robert J. Brocker.

20 Years Ago — June 1971

The big item under discussion was "Peer Review." Like the weather, everybody talked about it, but nobody did anything about it. Most doctors were afraid that peer review mechanisms would eventually be used by third party payers for purposes of regulating the performance of physician's services. St. Elizabeth Hospital initiated a new publication, *Medical Bulletin of St. Elizabeth Hospital*, edited by Leonard Caccamo.

10 Years Ago — June 1981

Dr. Harold Chevlen presented a slide show for the May meeting of the MCMS, depicting the state of medicine in China. Dr. Sam Zoss was presented a certificate of merit for distinguished service in the field of allergy. The award was presented by the American College of Allergists, of which Dr. Zoss was an original member. Dr. John Melnick published a paper in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, outlining his research into thyroid hemiagenesis. Dr. Melnick described four new cases in the Mahoning Valley. New members were Benjamin Hayek, Masud Hashmi, Robert Sinsheimer, Frank Stefanek and Valerie Gilchrist. □



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In The News

Y. T. Chiu Jr., MD, has been named to the Board of Trustees of Youngstown State University. His term runs until May 1, 2000. Dr. Chiu, former chairman of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Ohio Univer-

sities College of Medicine, is president of clinical care for Western Reserve Care System and serves on the medical advisory board of the Easter Seal Society of Trumbull and Columbiana counties. □

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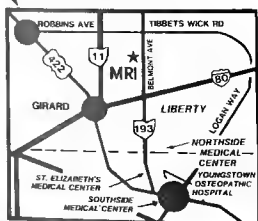
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Many Faces of Me IV, Original Handmade Cast Paper

by Gail Trunick (1958 –)

I am diverging from paintings to bring you the artistic ideas of another local artist. Gail Trunick was born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, in 1958 and grew up in the small Ohio towns of Orangeville and Champion. Upon graduation from high school, Gail studied painting and sculpture at Kent State University, receiving her B.F.A. She later returned to teach art classes at KSU's Trumbull Campus for five years. She has also taught private art classes at the Trumbull Art Guild. It seems to be second nature for Gail to be in a classroom or group somewhere, sharing her artistic ideas with both children and adults. Yet Gail shares more than ideas, she stirs imaginations and creative forces in people because of her own excitement in working with more than one medium of art form. Gail refers to herself as a "mixed media" artist and states, "I enjoy variety in my work and feel that switching and combining materials gives my work a wider range of creative expression." Among her talents are oils, watercolors, a wide range of sculpturing, and cloth collages.

Presented on the cover is her "Many Faces of Me IV," a handmade cast paper creation. Using recycled paper, Gail breaks paper scraps down by cooking and beating. When the pulp reaches its fiber form, she lifts it from a vat of water onto a screen and presses it into sheet form. From there she will cast it. Gail enjoys sculpting with cast paper "because it enables [me] to work largely without the weight of traditional sculpture. I also like the fact that I can tear and manipulate the paper unlike other sculptural mediums."

"Many Faces of Me IV" is part of a series Gail has been working on for several years called "Movement Pieces," and in this particular work "it gives the feeling of layering and peeling to reveal what is within, be-

neath the surface."

Gail Trunick wanted to be an artist from a very early age. She grew up in a family of nine children with a mother who, as an established potter, influenced Gail in her artistic pursuits. Gail also attributes her creativity to being raised in a large family where "there was not an abundance of toys and our play came from our own imagination and creative initiative." Currently married with two small children, Gail establishes areas in her home and studio where the children can play, touch, and work with her art materials, allowing their imagination free form.

Gail Trunick and her husband Robert own and operate the Trunick Gallery in Brookfield, Ohio, where they handle over 100 artists from across the country. This gives Gail an additional opportunity to inspire and be inspired by other artists. Gail has received numerous awards for her works, has been in many one woman and group showings in New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Indiana, and was included in the 1988 May show of the Cleveland Museum of Art. Gail's works are found in numerous private and corporate collections in Ohio, Pennsylvania and California.



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Physicians Insurance Company of Ohio (PICO) has announced a new liability protection program for young physicians which provides special premium discounts extending from the first year of practice through the fourth year (year 1 - 60 percent; year 2 - 30 percent; year 3 - 30 percent; year 4 - 15 percent). If the physicians

remain loss-free during the first two years, loss-free premium credits will begin to apply in the third year of coverage. Physicians involved in teaching may also qualify for additional discounts.

Brochures will be sent to all eligible members.. □

MCMS Supports Science Day Awards

The Mahoning County Medical Society again supported the awards program for the 1991 Lake-to-River Science Day Program held April 13, 1991, at Youngstown State University. The Society provided three \$100 savings bonds which were given as prizes to students who presented exceptional research projects for

the event.

Award recipients were Heather Champion, a senior at Wilson High School; Alicia Mazzi, an eighth grader from St. Anthony Padua School; and Chloe Tochtenhagen, an eighth grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary. Chloe is the daughter of Dr. Samuel and Joyce Tochtenhagen. □



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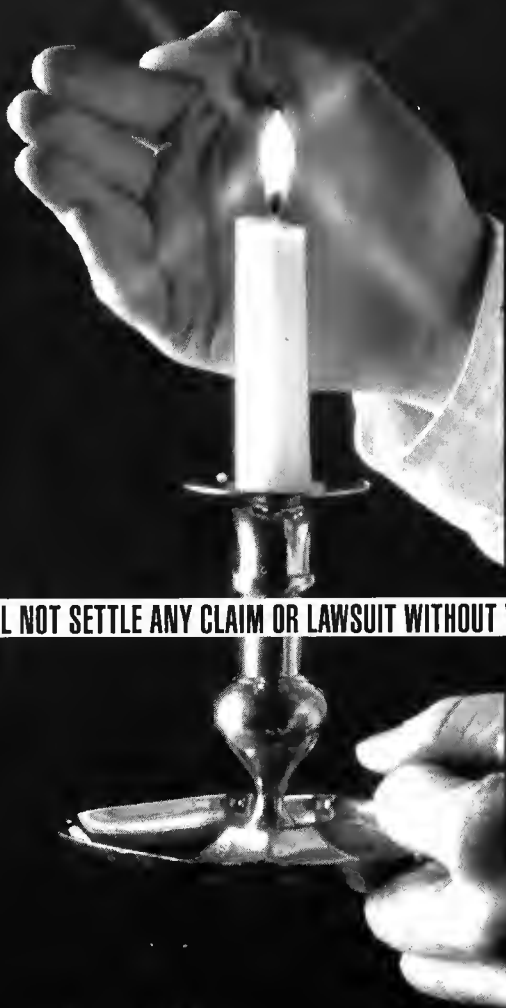
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